

# THE DAILY COMMONWEALTH.

VOL. 10.

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# THE COMMONWEALTH.

## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

CALLED SESSION, 1861.

Gentlemen of the Senate and  
House of Representatives:

When in March last the Legislature adjourned, and with kind remembrances of the winter's association you separated for your respective homes, I did not apprehend that alarming complication of our federative system which has rendered imperative upon me your convocation in extraordinary session. The Republic seemed then launched upon a career of limitless national prosperity, while its citizens enjoyed an aggregate of domestic and social happiness unequalled in the condition of any other people. Covering twenty-three degrees of latitude, and sixty degrees of longitude, our territory was nearly equal to that of all Europe, and embraced a soil of unsurpassed fertility, adapted by every pleasing variety of climate to all the products of the earth. Our commerce, sustained by an extended system of internal improvements reaching, through the media of turnpikes, railroads, canals, rivers and inland seas, to the very heart of every section of the country, and finding its outlets upon the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and upon the Gulf of Mexico, may be said to have commanded the markets of the world. The keels of our steamers plowed every ocean, and the seas and navigable streams of the most remote regions were whitened by the sails of our merchant vessels. Our people, numbering thirty millions of freemen of all nations and races, and realizing as the fruits of their industry, \$2,000,000,000 in annual productions; by their great and thriving cities; by their magnificent churches, school-houses, colleges and charitable institutions; by their progress in agriculture and manufactures; by their advance in the arts and sciences, gave unmistakable evidence of a degree of internal prosperity not reached by the same number of people under any other form of government. In view of these great blessings and encouraging signs, the glorious results of less than a century's growth of the Republic, I had fondly hoped that the union of the States would be perpetual, and did not doubt that the next cycle of fifty years would more than realize the poet's wildest dream.

With a heavy heart I turn to contemplate the present condition of our once happy country. At the very time when every industrial pursuit was yielding its highest remuneration, we have witnessed a stagnation in trade. The earth has responded with an abundant harvest to the enlightened cultivation of the agriculturists; but while the crop awaits transportation to market, commerce is paralyzed, and the laws of exchange disordered. The business of the country was never in a more healthy condition, nor our people in the main more prosperous; yet credit is destroyed, confidence lost, and financial ruin imminent. These phenomena can only find their explanation in the troubled condition of our political affairs. We, the people of the United States, are no longer one people, united and friendly. The ties of fraternal love and concord, which once bound us together, are sundered. Though the Union of the States may, by the abstract reasoning of a class, be construed still to exist, it is really and practically, to an extent, at least, fatally impaired. The confederacy is rapidly resolving into its original integral parts, and its late loyal members are intent upon contracting wholly new relations. Reluctant as we may be to realize the dread calamity, the great fact of revolution stares us in the face, demands recognition, and will not be theorized away. Nor is the worst yet told. We are not yet encouraged to hope that this revolution will be bloodless. A collision of arms has even now occurred between the Federal Government and the authorities of a late member of the Union, and the issue threatens to involve the whole country in fratricidal war. It is under these circumstances of peculiar gloom that you have been summoned. To your trust must now be committed, in great measure, the destinies of our beloved State, and upon you devolves the solemn responsibility of so wielded the accorded influence of Kentucky in this momentous crisis, as shall conserve the honor and happiness of our people and promote the good of all. I can only beseech you, by all you hold dear in this sad hour of our country's peril, to cast aside old party affiliations, and, looking facts full in the face as they actually exist, to address your selves earnestly to the great work before you.

Our present unfortunate political complications are the legitimate scions of underlying causes against which all the great conservative statesmen of the age have solemnly warned their countrymen. A political organization based upon the one idea of hostility to the institution of African slavery, and embodying as one of its material elements of strength, an intolent sectional fanaticism, has been for years steadily gathering power in the non-slaveholding States, and has at last exhibited national ascendancy in the election of Abraham Lincoln, its faithful exponent, to the Presidency of the United States. It is true that triumph was reached through all the forms of law, but it was effected by the agency of purely sectional votes, and rests upon sectional animosity. By virtue of that election, the Federal Government will be committed to the control of the Republican party, and administered upon a platform of principles destructive to our rightful equality as States and citizens, and fatal to the stability and security of our whole social organization.

Receiving the verdict pronounced on the 6th of November last as the deliberate expression of the sentiments of the citizens of the North, and as indicative of the settled purpose of the dominant party to administer the Government detrimentally to their vital interests, the people of several southern States, immediately upon its announcement, initiated movements looking to the speedy severance of their relations with the other States, and with the General Government. These movements progressed with startling rapidity, and were sustained by such unanimity of feeling in the several States as rendered all resistance idle and useless. Meantime patriotic efforts have not been wanting to effect an adjustment of the difficulties and restore the former friendly relation of the States; but I regret to say, to this hour with little hope of success.

My humble endeavors have been earnestly addressed to the work of bringing about a convention of the slaveholding States, believing that their united voice in demanding just and reasonable guarantees against the future invasion of their constitutional rights by the dominant power would achieve the object and reunite the States. Had such a movement been early initiated in the border States, I am assured it would have been favorably responded to by the whole South, in which event I firmly believe our embarrassments would ere this have presented fair prospect of adjustment. But the proposition

not with limited favor here, was violently assailed, and the time passed. It is now too late. The revolution has progressed beyond that point.

Soon after the election of Mr. Lincoln, in order to place Kentucky, as far as I could, in her true position, and in answer to continued inquiries for my views, I addressed a letter to the editor of the Kentucky Yeoman, which is herewith transmitted to you as embodying a more elaborate expression of my opinions.

On the 9th of December last, believing there was still a hope of bringing about united action on the part of the slaveholding States, I addressed a letter to the Governors of the southern States, urging a conference with view to an adjustment on the basis therein presented. That paper is herewith submitted to your consideration.

On the 27th of December last, believing the ordinary departments of the Government are vested with no power to conduct the State through such a revolution. Any attempt by either of these departments to change our present external relations, would involve a usurpation of power, and might command that confidence and secure the unanimity so essential to our internal safety. Thus encompassed by embarrassment, complication, and doubt, assailed by a diversity of counsels, and encountering much variety of opinion, it seems to me that the wisest, as certainly the safest mode of meeting the extraordinary emergency, is to adopt the course pursued by our neighboring States, and refer these great questions to the arbitration of the people, whose happiness and destinies they so deeply affect. We should in this mode secure unity among ourselves, and attract the cordial loyalty of all our citizens to Kentucky wherever she may cast her lot. I therefore submit to your consideration the propriety of providing for the election of delegates to a convention, to be assembled at an early day, to whom shall be referred, for full and final determination, the future Federal and internal relations of Kentucky.

Meantime I would leave no expedient untried which promises, however faintly, the restoration of fraternal relations between the States, and offers even remote hope of again reuniting the members and rescuing the Union from its present peril. We seem to be drifting in a gale upon the rocks of disunion. Let us make one more, one united, one last effort to save the old ship. Although she has never encountered such a tempest, she has weathered many fearful storms. Anchor after anchor has been thrown out to save her, but she still drifts before the swelling waves upon the fearful breakers—hull and cabin and deck are creaking and cracking, and every joint and bolt and timber is strained to its utmost tension. There should be no divided counsels now. Let us throw overboard former jealousies, past party affiliations, passions, and personal ambition. Let us make one more effort to save her all together; and if she is lost, let us cling to the noble wreck, and reconstruct the vessel from the staunch old timbers of the Constitution. There is hope that an adjustment, honorable to all, may be effected through the action of the border slave States, including Tennessee and North Carolina. Their approval of the amendments to the constitution proposed by Senator Crittenden, with security for their future observance, presented to Congress, to the free States in legislative session, and to the people if practicable, as an ultimatum, may yet secure the guarantees we require, and possibly in the end bring back all the States in one Union. To this last effort a convention of these States is necessary. I would, therefore, recommend to you the adoption of resolutions inviting a conference of these States, and of such others as may choose to co-operate, at Baltimore, for an early day in February. It will then devolve upon you to provide for the appointment of Commissioners to represent Kentucky. The conjoint declaration of these States against coercion might do much to avert impending war. Their united co-operation in any event, would materially promote their future safety and peace.

The relations of the Federal Government with the seceding States have occasioned the most anxious solicitude with those who have at heart the peace and tranquility of the country. I had hoped that when the secession movement of the revolution had assumed its present aspect, when four sovereign States, by the almost unanimous vote of their people, had announced their purpose to close their past federal relations, and likely soon to be joined by four others, there would be found none so mad, none so blind to the dire results, as to advise or countenance the employment of military force in futile resistance to their action. Such a proposition, whether it be called plainly coercion and subjugation, or be disguised under the specious phrases of "enforcing the laws" and "protecting public property," means civil war, and war of the most frightful and abhorrent character. I can but regard the action of the Federal Government in refusing to recognize the fact of secession, and its proposed attempt to maintain the supremacy of its laws within the borders of the seceding States, as a policy more utterly barren of good result, and more certainly fraught with calamity, than any step yet taken in the drama. This government stands upon the consent of the governed; its internal strength springs from the voluntary allegiance of the citizens; it is sustained by the common affection, the mutual confidence, and fraternal feelings of the people. It cannot be held together by force, and the attempt to sustain it will not only fail, and fail in blood, but will destroy the last hope of reconstruction. Kentucky cannot be almost a certainty upon which you may safely project your action, what attitude shall Kentucky assume, and by virtue of what authority shall her external relations be hereafter determined?

Kentucky will not submit to the degradation of inequality in the Union. Conscious of the will and ability of her citizens to maintain their honor, their rights, and freedom, she will protect them in the Union or out of it. Kentucky has to this hour borne herself with the dignity, the forbearance and the moderation becoming her historic character. She has borne much, and will bear much for the cause of the Union. But in my opinion the people of Kentucky will never consent to remain in this confederacy, now abandoned by a large portion of the slaveholding members, with no guarantees of protection from the anti-slavery power now dominant. Kentucky will not and ought not to submit to the principles and policy avowed by the Republican party, but will resist, and resist to the death, if necessary.

But I recall the suggestive inquiry just put. In view of the partial disruption of the Union, the secession of eight or ten States, the establishment of a Southern Confederated Republic, and the administration of this Government upon the principles of the Chicago platform—a condition of our country most likely near at hand—what attitude will Kentucky hold, and by virtue of what authority shall her external relations

be determined? Herein are involved issues of momentous consequence to the people. It is of vital importance to our own safety and domestic peace that these questions be solved in accordance with the will of the majority of our people. How have our neighboring States prepared to meet this emergency? Tennessee has, through the action of her Legislature, referred the whole subject to her people, to be passed upon in their sovereign capacity. Virginia and North Carolina are discussing the propriety of a similar course, and will most probably authorize the people, through sovereignty conventions, to dispose of questions so deeply and vitally concerning their interests. Missouri seems likely to adopt a similar policy. These States wisely recognize the fact that the country is in a state of revolution, and it seems to me there is an eminent propriety, at such a time, in a direct appeal to the people. The ordinary departments of the Government are vested with no power to conduct the State through such a revolution. Any attempt by either of these departments to change our present external relations, would involve a usurpation of power, and might command that confidence and secure the unanimity so essential to our internal safety.

Thus I have the gratification to communicate to you that, under the admirably drawn and well adapted "Militia Law" enacted by you at your regular session in March last, an organization of companies, battalions, and regiments has been effected, than which I can recommend none more reliable and efficient. Copies of this law have been sought for by those having in charge the military organizations of other States, and now it constitutes the basis of the system in more than one State. It was peculiarly fortunate in securing the services of Gen. S. Buckner, a native Kentuckian, in the responsible position of Inspector General. He has brought to the position an amount of experience, ability, and patriotic labor, to which I attribute, in a great measure, the present highly encouraging condition of the corps. His report, giving full information on the subject, will be communicated to you, and to it your attention is invited. Our people seem thoroughly aroused to the importance of a thorough and effective military corps, sufficient for any and all emergencies. You will readily perceive the necessity of extending them all proper aid and encouragement.

An appropriation of money for the purpose of more efficiently arming, equipping, uniforming, and providing munitions of war for the corps of volunteer soldiers, now constituting the main defense of our people, will be regarded by you as among your first and most imperative duties. No man can foresee the issue of our present political troubles. It becomes our duty to prepare for the worst, and look carefully to the security and safety of our citizens. But this subject is of such manifest importance as to need no argument from me. I refer to the report of the Inspector General for full information touching the condition of our military defenses at this time, and the further provision needed.

Accompanying the message you have a statement from the Auditor, showing the financial condition of the State on the 15th day of this month. I have caused this exhibit to be made, that you may understand the necessity of providing for a revenue sufficient to meet the extraordinary expenditures likely to become unavoidable.

While I would appreciate your disinclination to permit your attention to be diverted at this time from the grave subjects already presented, by any matters of ordinary legislation, I cannot forego the mention to you of a calamity which, since your last adjournment, has withdrawn from a large number of unfortunate the munificent provision made for them by the State. On the day of —— last the large building devoted to the care of the insane at Hopkinsville was completely destroyed by fire. Fortunately the calamity was attended with little loss of life, but the inmates were subjected to no small discomfort. The report of the commissioners, giving full information on the subject, will, in a few days, be submitted to you. You will see the necessity of rebuilding the asylum and providing for the comfort and support of the patients. No matter how pressed by the burdens of government, the people of Kentucky will never complain of taxation when levied for the support of the unfortunate insane.

Since your last adjournment, a controversy has arisen between this State and the State of Ohio, touching the rendition of a fugitive from the justice of the laws of Kentucky, escaped into Ohio. The questions arising in the controversy are novel and interesting, and of a character affecting very nearly the rights of our State, and the security of the citizens. The facts will appear from the correspondence between the Governor of Ohio and myself, to which you are referred. On the 23d of December, at my direction, a petition was filed in the Supreme Court of the United States, praying a mandamus or a rule to show cause, directed to the Governor of Ohio, the argument of which, I am advised, will be heard on the 8th of February. I have employed learned and competent counsel, who will guard well and ably the interests of the State. An appropriation of \$—— will be necessary to meet the cost and necessary expenses of the case.

Feeling, in this day of our country's trial and calamity, the necessity of Divine assistance, invoking His aid in shaping your deliberations and beseeching His blessing upon your efforts to save the country, I will take pleasure in co-operating with you in any just measures calculated to bring about this result.

B. MAGOFFIN.

—

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mercer—C. S. Abel, Dem.

Clinton and Cumberland—R. M. Alexander, Opp.

Perry—V. P. Armstrong, Opp.

Christian—Wm. Brown, Dem.

Voyette—R. A. Buckner, Opp.

Bourbon—O. H. Burbridge, Opp.

Gardner—Joshua Burdett, Opp.

Fleming and Rowan—H. G. Burns, Dem.

Madison—C. F. Burnam, Opp.

Marion—Robt. A. Burton, Jr., Dem.

Kenton—J. G. Carlisle, Dem.

Gallatin—A. B. Chambers, Dem.

Payette—Thos. H. Clay, Opp.

Harrison—W. W. Cleary, Dem.

Bracken—F. L. Cleveland, Opp.

Wayne—Shelby Coffey, Jr., Dem.

Galloway—Virgil Coleman, Dem.

Graves—J. W. Cook, Dem.

Laurel and Rockcastle—M. J. Cook, Opp.

Louisville 1st District—Jos. Croxton, Dem.

Morgan and Breathitt—Wm. Day, Dem.

Fleming and Rowan—H. B. Dobyns, Dem.

Monroe—Daniel E. Dowling, Opp.

Grant—Alex. Dunlap, Dem.

Kenton—John Ellis, Dem.

Hardin—R. B. English, Opp.

Logan—G. W. Ewing, Opp.

Hancock—Eugene A. Faileon, Dem.

Simpson—John A. Finn, Dem.

Jessamine—Wm. Fisher, Opp.

Casey and Russell—McDowell Foggs, Opp.

Mason—Geo. L. Forman, Opp.

Allen—J. Wilson Foster, Dem.

Adair—Nat. Gethers, Jr., Dem.

Green—R. H. Goler, Dem.

Breckinridge—H. C. Gwinaway, Opp.

Jefferson—Samuel L. Geiger, Dem.

Livingston and Marshall—T. L. Gheen, Dem.

Grayson—Lafayette Green, Dem.

Pulaski—John Griffin, Dem.

Bath—John H. Guidell, Dem.

Bullitt—John O. Harrison, Dem.

Oboe—John Haynes, Dem.

Butler and Edmonson—Jos. Hill, Dem.

Carroll and Trimble—Ben. M. Hitt, Dem.

Warren—Campbell—Geo. B. Hodge, Dem.

Washington—John B. Hunter, Dem.

Ballard and McCracken—L. D. Husbands, Dem.

Greenup—Wm. C. Ireland, Opp.

Oldham—R. T. Jacob, Dem.

Nelson—Sylvester Johnson, Dem.

Scott—Wm. Johnson, Dem.

Lincoln—G. A. Lackey, Opp.

Hickman and Fulton—W. D. Lanham, Dem.

Henry—Jas. Leah, Dem.

Trigg—Young A. Linn, Dem.

Mason—L. S. Luttrell, Opp.

Henderson—J. B. Lyne, Opp.

Pendleton—Jas. Mann, Dem.

Spencer—Edward Massie, Dem.

Jefferson—David Morrissey, Dem.

Union—Hiram M. Royer, Dem.

Daviss and McLean—Jno. G. McFarland, Dem.

Alexander—Jos. H. D. McKee, Dem.

Madison—W. L. Neal, Opp.

Shelby—F. Neil, Opp.

# THE COMMONWEALTH.

FRANKFORT.

J. H. JOHNSON, Editor.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1861.

The Governor's Message—State Convention.

It will be seen, from reading the message of Governor Magoffin, that he makes the following recommendations:

1st. A State Convention to meet "at an early day."

2d. Commissioners appointed by the Legislature to act for Kentucky in a convention of the border slave States, including Tennessee and North Carolina, and such other States as choose to send commissioners to meet at Baltimore early in February.

3d. The presentation of Crittenden's compromise, or its equivalent, as an ultimatum.

4th. The arming of the State.

5th. Appropriation to pay the expenses of the Lane case.

6th. The rebuilding of the Lunatic Asylum at Hopkinsville.

Our limited space forbids us referring to any of the foregoing recommendations except that which relates to the calling of a State Convention. That is the most important of all of the Governor's recommendations, and deserves the maturest consideration of every citizen and especially of the members of the Legislature.

Observe that his Excellency recommends a State Convention "to be assembled at an early day, to whom shall be referred, for full and final determination, the future Federal and inter-State relations of Kentucky." These are words of terrible import. They are full of significance when examined in connection with the present condition of the country. We must take the liberty, however, of saying that the language employed by the Governor, is wanting in that directness and candor which should characterize everything which comes from those high in authority. This is the time for decision and for action. We should much prefer to have the real views of our Chief Magistrate in plain Anglo Saxon, but as we cannot be gratified in this, we must resort to deduction. Let us endeavor, then, to arrive at the full force of the language employed by the Governor.

He recommends that a convention be called "at an early day." In view of the action of other States, to which the Governor calls the attention of the Legislature, and in view of the openly avowed position of his most intimate friends hereabouts, it is evident that the message looks to a State Convention to be held before the 4th of March. To that convention is to be referred, "for full and final determination, the future Federal and inter-State relations of Kentucky." In other words—for no other construction of his language is admissible—the Governor desires a convention before the 4th of March, which shall decide without the sanction of a direct vote of the people, fully and finally, whether Kentucky shall remain in the Union.

If we are justified in this interpretation of the language (and it means that or nothing), we are reluctantly compelled to regard the message as another link in the chain of evidence which has forced upon our minds the unwelcome conviction that the Governor of Kentucky is a secessionist. His unofficial acts during the last six months (to which we will not here allude), justify and strengthen this belief. Besides, the plan of action proposed by him for Kentucky is identical with that pursued by the disunionists in the cotton States—a plan which renders deliberation impossible, and which plunges us all headlong into war and bloodshed.

The month of February is near at hand, and yet it is gravely proposed that the people of Kentucky should, upon a few weeks' notice, elect delegates to a Convention which is to meet before the 4th of March, and decide finally our relations to the Federal Union! This is precipitation with a vengeance. What proportion of the people could ever hear of this matter before the day of election? In a large number of the counties, no court days intervene, and there is little or no communication among the voters at this season of the year. One-third of the voters in this State would never hear of the election until it was over, and if they did hear of it, they would not understand the effects and consequences of calling a Convention. They will have no time to hear discussion or to reflect coolly and calmly the result of their actions.

It is no answer to all this to say the Legislatures of other southern States have pursued the policy recommended by the Governor. Those Legislatures were not fresh from the people. They were elected before the existing crisis. No issues such as those now presented arose in their election. Above all, the positions of those States was far different from that occupied by Kentucky. She has it in her power to stay the wild waves of fanaticism. By a firm and decided course on the part of her representatives the Union may be preserved. Let her keep cool. Let her stand still for the present. If she should ever secede it can be done at some future time far better than now. Let her by action say to the American people that she has not yet determined to abandon this Union. Let her Legislature propose proper amendments to the Constitution, and submit them to the people of Kentucky and to the several States. In the name of all that is dear to our country, let not her Representatives by a call of a Convention precipitate revolution. Such action would indicate to our gallant allies in the North, that we regarded all as lost, and that Kentucky was prepared now to decide finally whether she would remain in the Union. A

State Convention would be nothing more nor less than a revolutionary body. It could decide upon no other question than the continuance of Kentucky in the Union. It could originate no amendment to the Federal Constitution. It would have no constitutional power to do so.

Let all bear it in mind, therefore, that a State Convention looks alone to steps preparatory to the secession of Kentucky from the Union before the 4th of March, and placing herself under a revolutionary provisional government. Let her Representatives meet the issue boldly. The people will sustain them. Let them exhaust all constitutional and reasonable expedients to obtain redress of Southern grievances in the Union before they turn to the last and final resort of breaking up the Union, and inaugurate civil war and anarchy in our midst. Like true and brave men, let them meet the "Knights of the Golden Circle," and all conspirators against our dearest rights, and say to them, and to all precipitants, that the people of Kentucky will not be "dragged" and hurried into revolution.

THE REPUBLICANS CONCILIATORY.—The disunion papers in the South are continually dinging it into the ears of their readers that there is no hope that the Republicans will compromise. This is not true. There is a disposition on the part of leading Republicans to surrender the most objectionable part of their doctrine for the sake of compromise. The disunion papers purposely suppress all evidences of this fact. William H. Seward, who is the acknowledged head of the Republican organization, in a recent speech in the United States Senate, clearly indicated a disposition on the part of his party to compromise the existing difficulties. We regret that our limits will not allow us to publish his speech. He says, among other things, that there is no "irreconcileable conflict" between free and slave labor. He takes the ground that the Personal Liberty Bills ought to be repealed in such free States as have passed them. He says that slavery should not be interfered with where it now exists.

Let the South act with moderation. Give Mr. Lincoln a chance. If we are to secede let us wait for a real cause, and not run away from a shadow, which, at all events, precedes the supposed danger some months. Secession is the last remedy which should be resorted to. We believe in standing up to and for the full measure of our constitutional rights, but we believe that we ought to do this in the Union. Shall we, because some of our rights are infracted, surrender them all? If the house of a Kentuckian was menaced by robbers, would he run down to South Carolina for the purpose of defending it. That would be secession.

UNEXPECTED CONDESCENSION.—The Emperor of South Carolina—poor Pickens—has published an edict, admitting all vessels to the port of Charleston, excepting only those who have aboard reinforcements for Fort Sumter. He even goes so far as to say that the trade of other nations is desired by him and his subjects. Well, wonder will never cease. Who would have thought that the nabobs of S. C. would have consented to trade with the coasting vessels of New York, which, in the days of the Republic, were wont to visit Charleston and sell them flour, pork and beef?

There is nothing that will bring a man to his senses as quick as an empty stomach. Stop a filibuster's rations, and he will stop his ranting directly afterwards. Starvation will adjust difficulties which have baffled the most learned diplomacy.

"Kentucky must go North or South," is now the rallying cry of the disunionists. It is as absurd as most of their arguments. It means just this: Kentucky is bound to make a fool of herself, and she has no chance save in the direction she takes.

We can tell these howling fanatics that Kentucky is not going anywhere. Unless some of the great disunionists in this Legislature set her rivers on fire and "drag" her off to South Carolina, Kentucky will remain in her present latitude, and preserve her integrity to the Federal Constitution.

QUERY.—The Constitution of Kentucky requires that the members of the General Assembly, before entering upon the discharge of their duties, shall take an oath to "support the Constitution of the United States." While this oath remains upon those members, how can they vote to call a State Convention with view to overturn the Federal Constitution, which they have thus sworn to support?

BACKING OUT.—A Poetess of Alabama has written some stuff in short meter, which she calls "Alabama's Battle Cry." We have room for only one line, which is as follows:

"Sternly meet the advancing foe."

Perhaps that's as good a way as any to meet the foe, but why not secede like a man, and not like a crab?

We have received a telegraphic dispatch from Harrison Thomson, Esq., the Representative from Clarke, dated at Jackson, Miss., on the 17th, in which he states that he was detained there by injury to the railroad by freshets. He will be in his seat as soon as he can reach Frankfort.

New Music.—We are indebted to Tripp & Cragg, Louisville, for a new and soul-stirring song, set to music. The song and music are by Will S. Hays. It is entitled "The Union Forever, for Me," and is dedicated to the lovers of the Union.

We call attention to the advertisement, in another column, of the Franklin House, in South Frankfort. Mr. Vanarsdale is an old and experienced landlord, and is prepared to and can "keep a hotel."

## KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE.

IM SENATE.

TUESDAY, Jan. 17, 1861.

This being the day appointed by the Governor in his proclamation for the convening of the Legislature of Kentucky, at 12 o'clock

the Senate was called to order, by Hon. T. P. PORTER, the Speaker.

The Senate was opened with prayer, by Rev. B. T. LACY, of the Presbyterian Church, in an earnest and devout prayer for peace and unity.

The roll was called, and all the Senators answered to their names, except Messrs. Irvin, Jenkins, Johnson, and Roseau.

Hon. JAMES SIMPSON, who had been elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Hon. JAMES MCKEE, of the 33d district, appeared, presented his certificate of election, took the oath required by the Constitution, which was administered by G. W. Gwin, Esq., and took his seat.

Mr. BRUNER offered a resolution to appoint a committee to inform the House of Representatives that the Senate was organized and ready to proceed to business—adopted, and Messrs. Bruner, Grundy, and Taylor were appointed.

A message was received from the House, by Mr. Pitt, announcing the organization of the House, and the appointment of a committee on the part of the House, to wait on the Governor and inform him of the organization of the Legislature and its readiness to receive any communication from him.

On motion of Mr. GROVER, a committee on the part of the Senate was appointed to wait on the Governor and inform him of the organization of, and the readiness of the Senate to receive any communication from him.

Messrs. Grover, Rhea, and Prall were appointed said committee.

Mr. PENNEBAKER offered a resolution appointing J. W. Pruitt, Jr., and Chas Campbell pages for the present called session, which was unanimously adopted.

The committee appointed to wait on the Governor reported that they had performed the duty assigned them, and were requested by him to say to the Senate that he would in a short time send to the Senate a message in writing.

A message in writing was received from the Governor, by the hands of Mr. Thos. B. Monroe, Jr., Secretary of State.

The Message was read by the Clerk, and may be found in another part of our paper.

Mr. ANDREWS moved that the usual number of copies of the message be printed: adopted.

Mr. FISK, offered a resolution to instruct the Committee on Federal Relations, which was as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Federal Relations, and hereafter instructed, to inquire into the expediency of submitting what is known as the Crittenden amendments to the Constitution of the United States, to a vote of the qualified voters of Kentucky, on the 22d day of February next; and directing the Governor to request the Governors of the States of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana, to cause the same to be submitted to the votes of their respective States on the same day. Also that the Governor appoint two Commissioners to meet two Commissioners from each of the aforesaid States, in Cincinnati, in the State of Ohio, on the — day of March next, for the purpose of preparing amendments to the Constitution of the United States, in order that such amendments may be submitted for the adoption of all the United States, as shall heal the discord now existing among them, restore fraternal feelings, settle and protect the just rights of all the people in all the States and Territories, and forever remove the slavery question from the halls of the National Legislature, and that said committee report by bill or otherwise, at their earliest convenience.

On motion the resolution was ordered to be printed, and made the order of the day for 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. ANDREWS offered the following joint resolution, which lies over one day under the rule:

*Resolved* by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky in General Assembly, That we approve the propositions lately offered in the Senate of the Congress of the United States, by our Senator, Hon. John J. Crittenden, as a proper basis for the settlement of the existing national difficulties on the subject of slavery.

Mr. ANDREWS also offered a joint resolution, in substance, providing that this Legislature will not go into general legislation, but will confine the action of the Legislature to the special matters for which the session was called. Lies over one day.

The rules of last session were adopted for this session, on the motion of Mr. Grover.

On motion of MR. ANDREWS, the hour of meeting of the Senate was fixed at 10 o'clock, A. M., and the hour of adjournment at 1½ o'clock, P. M.

Mr. PRALL offered a joint resolution, to make the Committees on Federal Relations of the two Houses a joint committee. Lies over one day.

[We could not get copies of the following resolutions, but will publish them in full when they come up for action in the Senate.

—REPORTER.]

Mr. SIMPSON offered a series of joint resolutions, requesting Congress to call a national convention. Ordered to be printed, and lie over one day.

Mr. RHEA offered a resolution, requesting the Speaker to appoint all standing committees laid down in the rules, for the present extra session. Adopted.

And then the Senate adjourned.

MARRIED.

On the 15th instant, by the Rev. W. W. Fore, Mr. J. W. CASLETON to Miss Emma C., daughter of S. D. Crabb, Esq., all of Henry county, Ky.

RECEIVED.

Resolved, That said committee report whether it is expedient to invite the call of a Convention of the border slave and free States, and such other States as may be willing to unite with them, to consider the best mode of settlement of the questions which now agitate and threaten to destroy the Union of these States.

And whereas, certain amendments to the Constitution of the United States, lately proposed by the Hon. JOHN J. CRITTENDEN, in the Senate of the United States, containing such provisions as will secure the rights of the slaveholding States, it is

*Resolved*, That said committee report whether it is expedient to propose to the Convention of the border slave and free States, for their adoption, and for the adoption of three-fourths of the States of the Union, that they withdraw the powers granted by them to the General Government, and that they are no longer members of the United States, and said States are constructing for themselves governments independent of the General Government; and whereas, the people of Kentucky are unwilling to destroy that National Government, which their fathers founded to them without making any compact or agreement, for the sake of securing to it from destruction, believing that the government, if administered in the spirit in which it was founded, will confer more happiness upon the people of the country than any other government which has been, or is likely to be, devised—it be it so resolved.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to direct that an election be held in said county at the several places of voting therein authorized by law on Saturday, the 26th day of January, 1861, for the election of a Representative of said county, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of said P. Hines; and that you cause polls to be opened in said precincts accordingly, and that you proceed to conduct and make due returns of said election in the mode and manner prescribed.

*IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF*, I have [s. s.] set my name, and affixed the seal of the Commonwealth. Done at Frankfort, this 16th day of January, 1861, and in the 65th year of the Commonwealth.

By the Governor. B. MAGOFFIN.

T. B. MONROE, Jr., Secretary of State.

Jan 18 tf.

DIED.

In this city, on the 16th inst., of consumption, Mrs. ELIZA PENNELL, wife of John N. Pendleton, Esq.

In this county, on the 16th inst., ROBERT, infant son of Robert M. and Mary D. Aldridge, aged 18 days.

—

SPECIAL NOTICES.

A. CONERY,

SIGN OF THE EAGLE.

(late W. P. LOOMIS.)

Has just received Watches, Jewelry, Silver Ware, Fancy Goods, Clocks, and Fine Knives.

Call and see them. Prices to suit the times.

—Watches, Clocks, and Jewelry repaired.

jan 16 tf.

GENTLEMEN: Allow me to tender to you my warmest acknowledgement of this additional mark of your kindness and confidence, and I hope you will rest assured of its high appreciation by me.

Allow me, my friends, to congratulate you all on our once more assembling at the State Capitol. More than a year past we assembled for the first time, in many instances strangers to each other, and after a long and laborious session we parted as friends; but though our assembling again once more is a subject of gratulation to us all, the occasion of our being called together is truly a melancholy one. When we separated last spring everything indicated peace and prosperity, and our political horizon shone bright and clear; now, we are surrounded by

alarms of the gravest character, prosperity has vanished, and clouds and darkness overshadow us. Then we were a united and happy people, now disunion and distress stalks through the land; then we had only little petty party strife and divisions to separate us; now we have the prospect of a dismembered republic before us.

In this great emergency—the greatest that has ever been presented for our consideration—I sincerely believe that much depends on the action of Kentucky, and that our noble old State will prove equal to it, I sincerely believe. A heavy responsibility, therefore, rests on our heads. Let us, then, meet this great crisis as men and patriots should do. It is our duty—our solemn, bounden duty—duty that we owe to ourselves, to our constituents, and to our country, not to falter or be dismayed on this solemn occasion. May God grant us a safe deliverance from all impending dangers.

The Throne of Grace was then addressed by the Elder W. T. MOORE, of the Christian Church.

Mr. CARLISLE offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, viz:

*Resolved*, That the Speaker be, and he is hereby requested, to invite the ministers of the Gospel, resident in Frankfort, to open the House with prayer each morning during the session.

On motion, Messrs. BRUNER, RODMAN, and SNEED, were appointed a committee to act with a committee of the Senate, to wait on the Governor and inform him that the Legislature was ready to receive any communication he might have to make.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mess

Guard against Fall and Winter Fires!

CHOICE INSURANCE

WITH THE



Incorporated 1819—Charter Perpetual.

CASH CAPITAL, - \$1,000,000,  
ABSOLUTE AND UNIMPAIRED.

NET SURPLUS OF - \$942,800 72.

And the prestige of 40 years success and experience.

UPWARDS OF \$12,000,000

Of Losses have been paid by the Etna Insurance Company in the past 40 years.

The value of reliable Insurance will be apparent from the following

LOSSES PAID BY THE ETNA DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

In Ohio...\$431,520 83 Michigan...\$158,043 81  
In Wis...106,955 07 Indiana...146,839 81  
In Ky...204,939 40 Illinois...448,327 41  
Missouri...384,518 04 Tennessee...97,549 21  
Iowa & Min...101,399 46 Kans & Neb...19,945 77  
Penn & Va...31,598 82 Ark & Ga...23,945 09  
Mississippi and Alabama...\$52,412 18

Fire and Inland Navigation.

Risks accepted at terms consistent with solvency and fair profit.

Special attention given to Insurance of DWELLINGS and Contents, for terms of 1 to 5 years.

The solid service long and successfully tried, and the many advantages of the Etna Insurance Company possess in its line, should not be overlooked by those ready to insure and understanding their best interests.

During "stringent times" the necessity for reliable insurance becomes an imperative duty—the ability of property owners to sustain loss being much lessened.

Agencies in all the principal cities and towns throughout the State. Policies issued without delay, by any of the authorized agents of the company.

Business attended with dispatch and fidelity.

H. WINGATE, Agent.

Frankfort, Ky.

## HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, JANUARY 1, 1860.

ASSETS.

Cash on hand and in Bank, \$38,338 11

Cash in hands of Agents, and in course of transmission, 62,690 83

Cash loaned on call, 30,000 00

\$131,029 00

Bills receivable for loans, amply secured, 70,223 59

Real Estate, unincumbered, (cash value) 15,000 00

2409 Shares Bank Stock in Hartford, market value, 260,352 00

2200 Shares Bank Stock in New York, market value, 200,225 00

200 Shares Bank Stock in Boston, market value, 107,565 00

400 Shares Bank Stock in St. Louis, market value, 40,300 00

240 Shares Bank Stock in Railroad and other Stock, market value, 16,750 00

Hartford City Bonds, 6 per cent., market value, 56,500 00

State Stocks, (Tennessee, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri,) 6 per cents., market value, 36,625 00

20 Shares State Bank Wisconsin, market value, 2,140 00

Total assets, \$926,709 59

Total liabilities, 66,930 25

Insurance against Loss or Damage by Fire, on Dwellings, Furniture, Stores, Warehouses, Merchandise, Mills, Manufactories, and most other kinds of property, can be effected in this Company upon as favorable terms as the nature of the risks and security of Policy holders will admit.

J. M. MILLS, Agent,

May 18, 1860-tf.

Frankfort, Ky.

FRANKFORT AGENCY

OF THE

New York Life Insurance Company

A meeting of the Local Directors of the New York Life Insurance Company, held in the city of Frankfort, Ky., December 4th, 1858, the following was unanimously adopted:

The undersigned Presidents and Directors of the Company have examined the report and exhibit of the New York Life Insurance Company for the half year ending July 1st, 1858, and being satisfied with its prosperous condition, cordially recommend it to the encouragement and support of the community.

The New York Life Insurance Company has been in existence fourteen years, its capital has attained the sum of

\$1,500,000.

Invested in State stocks, bonds and mortgages on real estate.

We think it a most safe and profitable mode of investing money. The profits enure to the benefit of the insured, and have averaged not less than 30 per cent. per annum on the premium paid.

Besides these investments in stock, &c., the law of New York requires as additional security, that \$100,000 shall be deposited with the State Comptroller, to meet any lawful demands which the Company may fail to pay.

We invite attention to the nature, objects, and advantages of Life Insurance, as set forth by this Institution.

It will be seen by the above statement that this Company is in a flourishing condition. Those devious of information in regard to the subject of Life Insurance, would do well to call on the Local Agent of the above Company, who will give them any information that may be desired, or for reference apply to either member of the Local Board, all of whom are Insured in this office.

G. S. MOREHEAD, President.  
EDM. H. TAYLOR,  
THO. S. PAGE,  
CHAS. G. PHYTHIAN, Directors.

R. W. SCOTT,  
H. I. TODD,

CLAIMS PAID AT THIS AGENCY.

John Lane ..... \$5,000

Thomas F. Thornton ..... 5,000

Joseph H. Davis ..... 5,000

William G. Craig ..... 5,000

John C. Herndon ..... 5,000

John T. Pendleton ..... 1,500

\$26,500

MEDICAL EXAMINER...W. C. SNEED, M. D.

H. WINGATE, Agent.

Frankfort Branch Bank.

July 1, 1860-tf.

Home Insurance Company, OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE, No. 4, WALL STREET,

CASH CAPITAL \$300,000 00

AMT' OF ASSETS 1st Jan. 1858-\$34,213 34

AMT' OF LIABILITIES, " 41,110 01

This Company continues to insure Buildings, Merchandise, Ships in port and their cargoes, Household Furniture and Personal Property generally, against Loss or Damage by Fire, on favorable terms.

Losses Equitably Adjusted and Promptly Paid.

Abstract of the SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT of the affairs and condition of the HOME INSURANCE COMPANY, of the City of New York, on the 31st day of December, 1857.

ASSETS.

Cash, Balance in Bank ..... \$ 27,000 56

Bonds and Mortgages (being first lien on Real Estate, worth at least \$891,000) ..... 460,600 00

Loans on stocks payable on demand, (market value of securities, \$263,667) ..... 150,859 85

Bank Stocks (market value) ..... 77,000 00

Real Estate, No. 4 Wall Street (the office of the company) ..... 67,604 72

Interest due on 1st January, 1858, (of which \$12,625 93 has since been received) ..... 14,375 93

Balance in hands of Agents and in course of transmission from Ag't's, on 31st Dec. (of which \$7,557 57 has since been received) ..... 24,684 75

Premises due and uncollected on Premiums due and uncollected on Policies issued at Office ..... 2,087 53

Total ..... 884,313 34

LIABILITIES.

Outstanding losses on 31st December, 1857, estimated at ..... \$39,410 01

Due Stockholders on account of Seventh dividend ..... 1,700 00

\$41,110 01

NEW YORK, 22d January, 1858.

CHAS. J. MARTIN, Pres't.

A. F. WILMARTH, Vice Pres't.

J. MILTON SMITH, Sec'y.

H. WINGATE, Agent.

Frankfort, Ky.

THE

Hartford Fire Insurance Company,

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

Capital, \$500,000.

1. ITS CAPITAL IS AMPLE.

2. ITS RATES ARE REASONABLE.

3. IT PAYS ITS LOSSES PROMPTLY.

H. HUNTINGTON, President.

T. C. ALEYN, Secretary.

J. M. MILLIS, Agent at Frankfort.

Oct. 12, 1859.

Fruit and Ornamental TREES, VINES, SHRUBS, &c., CULTIVATED AND FOR SALE BY Ed. D. Hobbs and J. W. Walker.

Twelve miles East of Louisville, Ky., immediately on the Louisville and Frankfort Railroad.

A NEATLY printed Catalogue of the Fruits, Ornamental Trees, Vines, Shrubs, &c., at the above named Nursery, may be had by application to A. G. HODGES, Frankfort, Ky.

Orders may be addressed to HOBBS & WALKER, Williamson Postoffice, Jefferson county, Ky., or to A. G. HODGES, Frankfort, Oct. 17, 1860.

Artesian Well Water.

SUPPLY always on hand at SAMUEL'S BARBER SHOP.

Feb. 8, 1860.

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.

The genuine have five signatures of Henry C. Spalding on each Box.

Sold by Druggists and other Dealers in Medicines.

Box will be sent by mail prepaid on receipt of the PRICE, 25 CENTS.

All orders should be addressed to HENRY C. SPALDING,

18 Cedar Street, New York.

nov12 w&twp.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, VINES, SHRUBS, &c., CULTIVATED AND FOR SALE BY Ed. D. Hobbs and J. W. Walker.

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Samuel's New Establishment!

HENRY SAMUEL, BARBER and HAIR DRESSER,

is happy to inform his friends and the public that he is again established in comfortable and commodious rooms, and ready to attend to all who may give him a call! His new establishment is in the building of Col. Hodges, on St. Clair street. He solicits public patronage, and hopes that his old friends and customers especially, who patronized him before the late fire, will now find their way back to his shop. March 12, 1855-b.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, VINES, SHRUBS, &c., CULTIVATED AND FOR SALE BY Ed. D. Hobbs and J. W. Walker.

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BEWARE OF C